

For Love of Country: In My Own Words

The Fairfax County Public Library
And the
For Love of Country Foundation
present
An essay and poetry contest

Public libraries – Why They Make My Life Better

For rising 7th, 8th and 9th graders
June 1 – August 22, 2009

The Fairfax County Public Library and
The For Love of Country Foundation present:

“For Love of Country: In My Own Words”

Rising 7th, 8th and 9th graders – enter “For Love of Country: In My Own Words,”
an essay and poetry contest and win up to \$100!

Just create an essay or poem on:

“Public Libraries – Why They Make My Life Better”

Fill out the cover sheet (below). Entries are due by **August 22, 2009, at 5 p.m.**

Rules and Guidelines:

- 1) All students entering 7th, 8th and 9th grade as of September 2009 are eligible for the contest.
- 2) All work submitted must be original work.
- 3) One entry per student is permitted (one essay *or* one poem).
- 4) Essay work will be judged on:
 - Originality and creativity;
 - Persuasiveness;
 - Clarity, coherence, and organization;
 - Grammar and spelling.

Poetry will be judged on:

- Originality and creativity;
- Relevance to contest topic;
- Clarity and coherence;
- Spelling.

- 5) Submit one copy of your work to your nearest Fairfax County Public Library or online at libraryevents@fairfaxcounty.gov by August 22, 2009, at 5 p.m.
- 6) Essay/poem must be accompanied with a completed cover sheet.
- 7) The winner will be notified by October 1; prizes will be awarded during Teen Read Week (October 18-24) at an awards ceremony in the library.
- 8) Essays/poems will not be returned.

Awards:

Each Fairfax County Public Library branch will distribute multiple prizes.
(There may be more than one winner in each category.)

\$100	Gold
\$ 50	Silver
\$ 25	Bronze
Certificates of Merit	

Cover sheet:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

School Name: _____

Grade (Fall of 2009): _____

Age: _____ M _____ F _____

My neighborhood library branch is: _____

Student

I have followed the rules and guidelines as outlined. If my writing is selected, I agree that the Fairfax County Public Library and/or media outlets may use my work.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian

I have read the rules and guidelines and allow my child to submit an essay/poem to the Fairfax County Public Library. I understand that this work may be posted on the library's Web site and/or used in other media outlets (using only first name and last initial to identify).

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____